

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00497 081556 Z

52

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 RSR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EUR-25 OMB-01 /118 W
----- 005485

R 081503 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4184

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 497

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, JO, IS

SUBJ: INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN JERUSALEM

1. AFTER MONTHS OF GRANDSTAND CONSTRUCTION, THREE LATE NIGHT REHEARSALS, ESTABLISHMENT OF LARGE ISRAELI MILITARY ENCAMPMENTS IN EAST JERUSALEM, AND NUMEROUS MINOR INCONVENIENCES AND AFFRONTS TO ARAB RESIDENTS OF CITY, CONTROVERSIAL INDEPENDENCE DAY MILITARY PARADE IN JERUSALEM CAME OFF UNMARRED BY ANY INCIDENTS OF TERRORISM. (ISRAELIS DID, HOWEVER, ARREST SMALL FEDAYEEN CELL ON OUTSKIRTS OF CITY DAY BEFORE PARADE). PARADE WAS IMPRESSIVE DEMONSTRATION OF MILITARY AND ORGANIZATION PROWESS, BUT DRAWN- OUT PREPARATIONS AND ATTENDANT IRRITANTS CREATED SUBSTANTIAL ILL WILL AMONG INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND ARAB RESIDENTS OF CITY.

2. PARADE WAS EXTREMELY WELL ORGANIZED, TRAFFIC FLOWED SMOOTHLY, AND SECURITY WAS VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE. ATTENDANCE GENERALLY CITED AS 300,000 BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFIRM. PROBABLY EQUAL NUMBER OF ISRAELIS SAW PARADE DURING REHEARSALS PREVIOUS WEEK.

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3. ARAB SECTOR OF CITY WAS CLOSED DOWN THROUGHOUT THE DAY,
AND MOST EAST JERUSALEMITES STAYED IN THEIR HOMES. "AL QUDS"
DESCRIBES ARAB FAILURE TO OPEN SHOPS AS "STRIKE", BUT GIVEN
FACT INDEPENDENCE DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY AND MERCHANTS UNABLE TO
GET TO THEIR SHOPS IN MORNING, ARABS TOOK LITTLE RISK IN
STAYING CLOSED. ON WEST BANK IT WAS BUSINESS AS USUAL.
DAY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
@@@OASYS@@@<CONCATENATED>

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN JERUSALEM
TAGS: PINT, IS, JO, PINT
To: AMMAN
BEIRUT
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEL AVIV
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE

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